

**Concise Explanatory Statement**  
***for an amendment to***  
**WAC 16-752-505**  
**Wetland and Aquatic Weed Quarantine**

On September 27, 2005, the Washington State Department of Agriculture held a hearing in Olympia to accept testimony on its proposal to amend WAC 16-752-505 (Wetland and Aquatic Weed Quarantine) by adding *Glyceria maxima* to the list of aquatic plants prohibited from sale in Washington State.

**Reasons for Adopting the Rule:**

The purpose of enacting this and other quarantines is to prevent the establishment and spread of harmful non-native species. Once established, they can have a serious impact on Washington's natural resources by displacing native species, altering habitat, reducing recreational use of waterways, and impacting agricultural production. Because *Glyceria maxima* is sometimes sold as an ornamental plant, adding it to the list of aquatic plants prohibited for sale would help prevent its introduction into the environment.

**Summary of Comments:**

The public comment period ran from August 24, 2005, until close of business on September 27, 2005. During that time three comments were received supporting the proposal. There were no comments received opposing the proposed amendment.

The following summarizes the written testimony submitted supporting the proposed amendment:

- **Kathy Hamel** – representing the Washington State Dept. of Ecology stated, "...I do support the addition of *Glyceria maxima* to the Agriculture Quarantine list."
- **Sonny Gohrman** – representing the Snohomish County Noxious Weed Control Board stated, "Including this invasive aquatic plant on the quarantine list and also on our noxious weed lists are basic steps in preventative weed management."

The following summarizes the oral testimony submitted supporting the proposed amendment:

- **Steve McGonigal** – representing the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board stated, "It is in the public interest that this plant not be distributed in our state."

**Difference Between Proposed Text and Published Text:**

There are no differences between the text of the proposed rule as published in the register and the text of the rule as adopted. The rule is adopted as proposed.